NEWS RELEASE

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Caribou National Forest Travel Plan Maps

Idaho Falls, ID: For many years the Forest Service has produced large format, colored maps to depict travel regulations and seasons of use, for forest roads and trails. The layout, colors, and symbols used on the maps varied from Forest to Forest. Generally, travel maps were available free of charge. In recent years, many Forests began to charge a fee for travel maps due to the increasing costs to print maps.

In 2005 all National Forests were directed to begin a process to provide travel information and visitor maps free of charge using one mapping format for all Forests. Travel regulations for the Caribou portion of the Caribou-Targhee National Forest are available using the new national format. The Caribou's 2006 Snow-free Season Travel Maps are a series of black-white maps that only show the roads and trails that are designated for motorized and mechanized travel and the non-motorized trails that the Forest Service maintains.

There are roads and trails on the Forest that are not shown on the travel map. These routes are only available for non-motorized and non-mechanized travel; such as hikers and horseback riders. A new travel map will be produced every year, and forest visitors need to be sure they are using the current year's travel map. These maps are available at our District Offices, the Idaho Falls Visitor Center and can be viewed and printed from our website at www.fs.fed.us/r4/caribou-targhee.

If you are unfamiliar with the Forest's roads and trails; large format visitor maps are available. These maps provide more detail than the travel maps. The visitor maps show topography, drainages, adjacent land ownership, and features such as wells and power lines. The visitor map is sold at the Ranger District Offices and the Idaho Falls Visitors Center. Travel regulations are not shown on the visitor map.

Snow Season Travel. A snow season map will be available at Forest offices and on our website by November of 2006.